Kaitlyn Rooney

TELL Final

I have never spent more than three years in a single home until I was thirteen years old. I have moved a total of five times and lived in six different homes, not including coming into college. I guess you can say that moving is something I’m good at and have been practicing all of my life. All of these moves were for different reasons, but one of them stuck out to me the most. This was the third move. I was ten when this happened and my mom and I had moved into my mom’s boyfriend’s house. The reason that this time was the most important to me is because it was the first time that I had switched towns. Because of this my life changed completely. Not only was I about to begin middle school and take on that transition, but I also had to make an entire new group of friends. Moving in with my mom’s boyfriend also meant that I was going to have a pet dog that I was very afraid of.

Soon I came to realize that moving gave me a whole new perspective on life. Both towns are very different from each other and I learned about how diverse the world can be. I went from one place that was very cluttered and busy to another that was a nice small town. Iselin, my original hometown, consisted of a lot of Indian culture, while Livingston has many Asian and Jewish people. Although I didn’t always like it in Livingston, I’m happy that my mom took me there. Not only was the schooling district a lot better, but also my mom soon after married my step- dad and I made some of the best friends that I will ever have.

After becoming comfortable in my town, high school came around and after that was college. Around four months ago I moved into Bloomsburg University to begin my education in the American Sign Language Program. This was a huge change for me because it was the first time that I, along with most other freshman here, was moving away from my parents and taking on a stronger level of responsibility. Not only did that cause some stress, but also the way of living. I am an only child and coming into my freshman year I was tripled in Columbia Hall. Although I have shared a room before with my mom in our third house, this was a lot smaller of a room and was with strangers that I had never met before. I had to adjust to being comfortable around them and also living out of such a small little corner of a room. Once everyone was settled in and I had a group of friends I enjoyed being with, I wanted to be able to go out and have fun before the stressful schoolwork began. Only problem was that Bloomsburg was very different from my hometown. Another reason college was such a big transformation for me was because I decided to go out of state. Coming from New Jersey I am used to all different types of stores to be located right around me. Here everything is around thirty minutes to an hour away. This was difficult for me to get used to. Over all coming to college has given me another hug perspective on life and how area affects the way we live. I never imagined going out of state to school and Bloomsburg is the only one out of six other college applications that I submitted not in New Jersey. The reason I did it was for the learning experience. I have met such a variety of people here at Bloomsburg and I have so much more to learn as the rest of my college career continues. I never would have met these people or have had these wonderful experiences without moving here to college and taking the chances I have so far.

As I grow older and graduate from college I hope to start a family and begin my career in interpreting. This involves me getting my own apartment or house with a roommate or possibly a boyfriend. This may result in me living in Pennsylvania or New Jersey, or I may even end up across the country. I picture myself living with someone else in a nearby state, as close to my family that I can be. I will be interpreting for an agency and discussing different job opportunities and locations for them. I have so many opportunities available for my future and I am willing to make these changes in my life.

In my eyes you learn something new everyday. I think that experiences in your life help you become to who you are. For that reason I chose moving as my main focus to connect my past, present, and future experiences. All of these things have changed my view on life and educated me in various topics. I have so much more to learn as my future continues. Not only school wise but also life wise as well.